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THE JAPANESE-AMERICAN PUBLICITY BUREAU

By GILBERT BOWLES

Secretary, The American Peace Society of Japan

WHILE definite plans for the projected Publicity Bureau, mentioned editorially in the August issue of the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, have not been completed, it seems fitting, in consideration of the inquiries that have already been raised in the United States in regard to this opportunity for practical philanthropy, to give tentatively a few details. The Publicity Bureau, as has been stated, is under the auspices of the American Peace Society of Japan and the Japan Peace Society. Present action in completing the plans for its maintenance awaits the return of Baron Sakatani, who recently attended, as official representative of the Japanese government, the Economic Conference called by the Allies in Paris, and who delayed his return to Japan to visit the larger cities of the United States, and is now in that country. As executive vice-president of the Japan Peace Society, Baron Sakatani has been the most responsible man in connection with this work in Japan for the last three years. It is now fairly certain that no substantial modifications of the scheme of action already drawn up will be made. I am therefore appending an outline of the plan as previously agreed upon by the two societies.

In addition to the points emphasized editorially in the *ADVOCATE OF PEACE*, it is well to note that the Publicity Bureau is to be of service to the cause in America as well as in Japan. The editorial referred to rightly emphasizes the fact that there is need for such a bureau in Japan, in order to translate and prepare for the press and for individual leaders of thought such material as will help the nation to a truer understanding of America and her purposes. But to no less a degree do we feel that there should be a bureau for collecting, translating, analyzing, and passing on to leaders in America material which will help there in a truer interpretation of Japan. What is contemplated is not the ordinary press bureau, as that need is largely met by existing agencies. Letters of inquiry from leading men in America who are working for the cause of better relations between the two countries frequently remind us that there is urgent need for a bureau of information which will meet these demands in the best way possible. Representative American residents of Japan, together with influential American visitors during the past five years, have thoroughly agreed as to the need for such a bureau, as well as leading Japanese with whom we are in co-operation. We believe that the work will be inaugurated as soon as the American Peace Society of Japan can secure its half of the fund. An annual pledge of \$600 a year will warrant the American Peace Society of Japan in undertaking its share of the work. While the Japan Peace Society has not informed us that its half of the sum is available, we believe it will soon be forthcoming if the Americans can do their part.

The officers of these two peace societies are all men of high purposes and well known among the pacifists of both countries. The members of sub-committees in charge of the work of organizing the bureau are: Japan

Peace Society, Dr. J. Soyeda, president of the Government Railway Board; Prof. H. Fukuoka, of the Tokyo Foreign Language School and member of the Council of the International Law Association of Japan; Mr. Miyaoka, for twenty-five years connected with the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Imperial Japanese Government; American Peace Society of Japan, Prof. E. W. Clement, First Higher School, Tokyo, and special correspondent of the *Chicago Daily News*; Dr. Clay MacCauley, Japan Unitarian Mission and correspondent of the *Boston Transcript*, and the writer.

Some Americans have taken the view that this work should be paid for in Japan; but it must be remembered that the work contemplated is international; that it would serve both Japan and America, and would have a larger, world-wide significance. Inasmuch as we understand that peace work in America is made much more difficult because of the frequent misstatements concerning Japan, furnishing the latest and most reliable information from here would, we believe, be rendering the best possible service to the cause of peace in America.

The great war in Europe; the agitation in the United States for a larger army and navy, with the frequent implications concerning Japan; the unsettled situation in China, giving rise to a most difficult situation in the relations of China and Japan—all these unite in presenting a strong call for the organization of a permanent and sufficient, even though small, publicity and translation bureau here in Japan.

The following is the agreement that has been entered into between the Japan Peace Society and the American Peace Society of Japan. It is to be understood, as already stated, that it is subject to alteration, but only in the lesser details, which would not affect its general purport. It represents a worthy and far-seeing form of philanthropy for those Americans who are willing to assume the burden of its support. For further information concerning the bureau, either the American Peace Society of Japan may be addressed (30 Kouncho, Mita, Tokyo) or the Rev. Dr. S. L. Gulick, Federal Council of Churches, 105 East 22d street, New York City.

Memorandum of Agreement Relating to a Publicity Bureau.

Art. I. The Japan Peace Society and the American Peace Society of Japan undertake to maintain conjointly a Publicity Bureau.

The expression "the bureau," as used in these articles of agreement, will be construed to mean the Publicity Bureau provided for in this article. Similarly the expression "the two societies" means the Japan Peace Society and the American Peace Society of Japan.

Art. II. The bureau has for its object the carrying on of any of the following undertakings that may be decided upon by the executive committees of the two societies as appropriate and practicable for adoption as the work of the bureau for the time being:

1. Correspondence with individuals, peace societies, and other organizations in foreign countries.

2. International exchange of newspaper cuttings, periodicals, and other publications.

3. Translation and publication of current literature tending toward the furtherance of the objects of the two societies.

4. Furnishing to the press and other publications in Japan and abroad material calculated to remove and to prevent causes of international misunderstanding as well as material of general interest bearing upon the objects of the two societies.

5. Arranging interviews of leading representative foreign visitors to Japan with the leaders of thought in this country, so as to bring about a free exchange of views between men of such distinction.

6. Enlisting the cooperation of the editors and correspondents of the press by maintaining close touch with them, so that material tending toward the furtherance of the objects of the two societies may appear in the press as much as possible.

7. Equipment of a library and reading-rooms for the propagation of current thought on the commercial, legal, racial, moral, religious, and other aspects of international relations.

8. Arranging for study groups, conferences, and lectures for the purpose as in Item 7.

Art. III. The bureau shall be placed under the joint direction and control of a committee composed of an equal number of members appointed by each of the two societies.

Art. IV. The offices of the bureau shall be located within the offices of the Japan Peace Society.

Art. V. The following officers shall be appointed for the bureau:

1. One secretary.
2. One typist.
3. One or more assistants.

Art. VI. Compensation shall be paid to the officers within the following limitations:

1. Secretary, not less than fifty yen or more than one hundred yen per month.
2. Typist, about thirty yen per month.
3. Assistants to be paid at such scale of salaries as the executive committees of the two societies agree.

Art. VII. The expenditure of the bureau shall not exceed two thousand four hundred yen per annum.

The cost of maintenance of the bureau shall be divided into two equal parts, and the two societies shall each contribute a moiety.

Art. VIII. The following is the budget for the expenditure, subject to the proviso that the transfer of appropriations from one item to another is permitted if approved by the executive committees of the two societies:

1. Office rent not exceeding ¥360.00 per annum.
2. Remuneration to the secretary not exceeding ¥1,200.00 per annum.
3. Remuneration to the typist not exceeding ¥360.00 per annum.
4. Postage, stationery, and sundries, ¥480.00.
5. Allowance for assistants to be defrayed out of the balance that may remain, after deducting the estimated items of expenditure from the total income.

Art. IX. The terms for which the bureau is estab-

lished is three years. At the expiration of such term the two societies may agree to continue the arrangement for the maintenance of the bureau on the same or similar conditions.

[Mr. Shippen Lewis, of Philadelphia, has already engaged to give \$100 a year for three years to the support of this bureau. Those interested in helping to complete the necessary \$600 may write directly to Dr. Bowles or to this office.—EDITORS' NOTE.]

WANTED—AMERICAN PROPAGANDA IN JAPAN

By K. K. KAWAKAMI

Author of "American-Japanese Relations," "Asia at the Door," etc.

ACCORDING to a Peking dispatch to newspapers, Japan has protested against the improvement of the grand canal of China by the American firm, the Siemens-Carey Company, of St. Paul. Personally, I have no more patience with this "dog-in-the-manger" attitude on the part of my native country than I have with the same attitude of Americans toward Japanese enterprise on the Pacific coast, and in Mexico and South America. To our great relief, later dispatches from Tokyo contradict the Peking dispatch, and state that Japan has not yet protested, but is inquiring into the question. It is to be hoped that the protest will never be made.

From a purely legal point of view Japan has, it may be argued, the right to object to this American project, for the German-Chinese convention of 1898, with regard to the Shantung province, contains the following article:

"The Chinese government binds itself, in all cases where foreign assistance, in persons, capital, or material, may be needed for any purpose whatever within the province of Shantung, to offer the said work of supplying of materials in the first instance to German manufacturers and merchants engaged in the undertaking of the kind in question."

Japan may contend that she is, as Germany's successor in the province, entitled to the privilege defined in the article quoted above.

Apart from her legal right, however, Japan will make a grievous mistake in putting her foot upon the American project, which, in my judgment, is purely commercial, unaccompanied with any political ambitions. Moreover, the improvement of the canal is calculated to insure the adjoining country against recurrent inundation, and thus enhance the happiness of a large section of the Chinese population.

At the same time, we can well understand why Japan is inclined to check American enterprise in China. There are two classes of Japanese who look askance at American activities in the Orient.

The first class consists of those who are really fearful of America's aggressive policy in the Far East. They think that America, not content with the enforcement of the Monroe Doctrine in her own hemisphere, is embarking upon an imperialistic career. She is, they fear, stretching her hands across the Pacific, intent upon extending not only her commercial interests, but her political influence, in China. In Secretary Knox's proposal for the "neutralization" of the Manchurian rail-